

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application claims 5 and 6, of which claim 5 is independent. Claims 1-4, 7 and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of their subject matter. Applicant is currently in the process of preparing a divisional application directed to those claims.

Claims 5 and 6 were identified as reciting patentable subject matter and being allowable if rewritten in independent form. As the Examiner will appreciate, Applicant has rewritten dependent claim 5 into independent claim form including all of the limitations of base claim 1. There are no intervening claims. In amending claim 5 to place it in independent form, Applicant has also taken note of the formal objections to claim 1 identified in the outstanding Official Action and has further amended claim 5 to address those objections.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application has been placed in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue are respectfully sought.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'L. Stahl', is written over a horizontal line.

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